



THE COUNTY OF KAUAI

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News Release

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KPD continues to conduct checkpoints around island

The Kaua'i Police Department initiated islandwide checkpoints on Thursday in an effort to help mitigate the proliferation of COVID-19 on Kaua'i, and in accordance with the statewide emergency proclamation and county emergency rules.

"Our officers were extremely professional and informative in their interactions and I am thankful for their hard work during this challenging time," said Kaua'i Police Chief Todd G. Raybuck. "Also mahalo to the community and those going through the checkpoints for their support, positive feedback and compliance."

In Po'ipū, there were only a small number of vehicles that passed through the checkpoint. The officers reported that the small number was likely due to the fact that major hotels are set to close in the area.

At the Keālia checkpoint, most vehicles were kama'āina traveling for essential work or other essential activities. Any passengers who were identified as conducting non-essential travel were provided verbal warnings and directed to return home or to their hotels. Almost 20 were rental vehicles containing visitors who arrived on the island prior to Thursday's quarantine order and were advised of the current stay-at-home measures.

In Waimea, contact was primarily made with kama'āina who were informed of the new guidelines. Visitors in a total of 13 rental cars who arrived on the island before Thursday were advised to return to their hotel and comply with the new stay-at-home guidelines.

The Hanalei checkpoint was the most trafficked. Approximately 200 vehicles passed through and about 25 visitors were advised of the stay-at-home measure. Ten residents were



advised of their non-essential travel. Several approved delivery trucks were also included in the vehicle count.

No citations or arrests have been made yet in regards to violations of the curfew or stay-at-home orders. However, at some point, enforcement will elevate from warnings to misdemeanor violations.

“To reiterate, the reason we are doing this is purely for the sake of protecting the health of our island and stop any community spread of COVID-19,” said Chief Raybuck. “If this virus should get to that point, our healthcare system is ill-equipped to handle the influx of people who will need beds and ventilators, much less have the resources to assist other ailments at the same time. This is a moment to consider the health of the community as a whole and to re-evaluate what is truly essential.”

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